

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 454  
By Beavers

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Coach Dan Winfree  
and the 1997 Mt. Juliet High School football  
team on a great season.

WHEREAS, with exceptional poise, skill and determination the 1997 Mt. Juliet High School football team has been one to remember, a team that peaked when it counted most, during the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Division 1, Class 5-A state championship playoffs; and

WHEREAS, Mt. Juliet warmed up for the rigors of championship competition with regular season victories over Clarksville Northeast 29-0, Antioch 21-13, LaVergne 19-0, McGavock 31-14, Lebanon 20-6 and Smyrna 38-24; and

WHEREAS, this talented team finished fourth in the tough Class 5-A Region 4; and

WHEREAS, in the first round of the playoffs, the Golden Bears soundly defeated Henry County 35-12; and

WHEREAS, in second-round action, Mt. Juliet beat traditional power Gallatin by an impressive 20-3 margin; and

WHEREAS, in the quarterfinals, they bested Brentwood in an exciting 23-21 contest; and

WHEREAS, this was the first team in school history to reach the semifinals of the state tournament; and

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WHEREAS, highly regarded and widely respected Coach Dan Winfree and his capable assistant coaches, Chris Fryer, Harris Jacobs, Jerry Kirby, Harry McAnnally, Brad Mattingly, Bill Williamson, Jay Holiday and Brian McClain, have done a great job; and

WHEREAS, the team leaders were senior back David Dedman, who was chosen as a TSSAA-American General "Mr. Football" finalist, the first time a Mt. Juliet player has been so honored, and was selected to the Associated Press All-State and All-Region 5 5-A teams; senior back Larry Johnson, was selected as the Region 5 5-A Offensive Most Valuable Player; and All-Region 5 5-A selections were senior wide receiver Terrence Gilbert, junior quarterback Darryl Keckler and senior linebacker Clint Wright; and

WHEREAS, each of the other members of the team made a significant contribution to its success. They were: seniors, Aaron Beazley, Sam Ollis, Brad Wienk, Shaun Knight, Dwayne Parrish, Jason Brockman, Cory Baker, De Woodmore and Jason Webster; juniors, Seth Walters, Gerric Hayes, Chris Sanders, Matt Brucee, Evan Butler, Andrew Flakoll, Kenny Powers, Matt Forte, Bryan Horn, John Earheart, Chris Casella, Keith Jones, Jeffrey Harrington, Luke Latham, Bud Morris, John Mires and Jordan Haun; and sophomores, Chris Jones, Bronson White, Josh Gray, Stephen Webber, Jon Joslin, Wes Webb, Michael Crook, Patrick Fegan, Clay Beazley, Jeremy Minchey, Daniel Baltz and Michael Dement; and

WHEREAS, Principal Phil Barnes has been very supportive of the Golden Bears; and

WHEREAS, the diligent managers were Tiffany Moore and Jack Simms; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that these gifted athletes be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor, congratulate and commend Coach Dan Winfree and the 1997 Mt. Juliet High School football team and wish them well in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation to the school and to each person named above, with this final clause omitted from such copies.